

PCT/US 99/11743
IPEAC 15 AUG 2000

- 32 -

CLAIMS

1. A polypeptide comprising the sequence given by Seq. ID. No. 5.
2. A cDNA molecule comprising the sequence given by Seq. ID No. 6.
3. A polypeptide comprising the sequence given by Seq. ID No. 7.
- 4.(amended) A method for reducing the activity of HIP-apoptosis modulating protein in a patient with Huntington's disease comprising the step of administering the patient a therapeutic composition which reduces the activity of the HIP-apoptosis modulating protein.
5. A method according to claim 4, wherein the composition comprises a material which binds to HIP-apoptosis modulating protein.
6. The method according to claim 4, wherein the composition comprises an expression vector encoding huntingtin having a normal number of repeats.
7. [canceled]
8. [canceled]
- 9.(amended) An expression vector for expression of a gene in a mammalian host comprising a region encoding an HD-interacting polypeptide wherein the HD-interacting polypeptide is an HIP-apoptosis modulating protein that has a sequence which includes the amino acid sequences given by SEQ ID Nos. 2, 4, 5 or 7.

AMENDED SHEET

PCT/US 99/11743
IPEA/US 15 AUG 2000

- 33 -

10. [canceled]

11. [canceled]

⁸ 12. A method for inducing apoptotic death in cells, comprising the step of introducing into the cells an expression vector encoding at least the death effector domain of a HIP-apoptosis modulating protein whereby the death effector domain is expressed by the cells.

⁹ 13. The method of claim ⁸ 12, wherein the expression vector encodes the amino acid sequence given by Seq. ID. No. 2.

¹⁰ 14. The method of claim ⁸ 12, wherein the expression vector encodes the amino acid sequence given by Seq. ID. No. 4.

¹¹ 15. A method for screening a composition for the ability to inhibit apoptosis induced by an HIP-apoptosis modulating protein, comprising simultaneously exposing a population of cells to the composition and an HIP-apoptosis modulating protein and measuring the extent of cell death.

Add H2

Add B7

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